

Figs. 13 and 14 are schematic views illustrating an ACL reconstruction procedure with bone blocks attached to a tendon;

Figs. 15 and 16 are schematic views illustrating an alternative ACL reconstruction procedure with a wire suture having a loop at its distal end; and

*A
Concl*
Figs. 17-21 are schematic views of another alternative reconstruction procedure with a cannulated screw and associated threaded collet.

Remarks

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner:

(1) objected to the disclosure because there is no Brief Description of the Drawings, and required appropriate correction; and

(2) indicated that the application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species, from each group of species, of the claimed invention:

Graft ligament

Species A: One or more stands of hamstring tendon (Figures 11 and 12)

Species B: One or more blocks attached to a tendon (Figures 13 and 14)

Apparatus

Species A: Figures 7-16

Species B: Figures 15-16 ~~17-21~~

Method of pulling wire suture down bone tunnel

Species A: Figures 17-21 ~~7-14~~

Species B: Figures 15-16

In response to Item 1 above, Applicant has now amended the specification of the above-identified patent application to insert a section entitled "Brief Description Of The Drawings" so as to provide appropriate correction to the specification. Accordingly, Applicant believes that the application is allowable.

In response to Item 2 above, Applicant hereby elects, without prejudice, to prosecute (1) the invention of Species A of the graft ligament group, drawn to one or more strands of hamstring tendon, drawn to Figs. 11 and 12; (2) the invention of Species A of the apparatus group, drawn to Figures 7-16; and (3) the invention of Species A of the group for the method of pulling wire suture down bone tunnel, drawn to Figures 15-16. Claims 2 and 4 are believed to be readable on the elected subject matter.

Applicant expressly reserves the right to prosecute all non-elected subject matter in related applications.

In the event that any additional fees may be required in this matter, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 16-0221.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Sheridan 04/07/03
James A. Sheridan

Reg. No. 43,114

Pandiscio & Pandiscio

470 Totten Pond Road

Waltham, MA 02451-1914

Tel. (781) 290-0060

TS/GOBLE1.AMD

GOBLE-1